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# FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
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CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS

LENTILS  
FDP 5-65  
March 1965

## LENTIL PRODUCTION SLIGHTLY

## DOWN IN 20 COUNTRIES

Lentil production in 20 reporting countries in 1964 was estimated at 18.9 million bags, slightly less than last year but nearly 50 percent above the 1955-59 average.

Excluded from the foregoing estimate is unreported but sizable production in several African countries, and any production in communist East Europe and the USSR.

Of the 20 reporting countries, about half reported declines of production from last year and others increases. The major increases occurred in the United States and Morocco; the major decreases in India and Spain.

The world's lentil production centers in Asia. Almost 66 percent of the 20-country output came from India. Pakistan, Turkey, and Syria. The smallest of this four, produced almost as much as all the American producers combined and more than all the European producers.

The United States is now the largest lentil producer in the Western Hemisphere, the 1964 output being about half that of Syria. The U.S., Chile, and Argentina are the 3 leading lentil producers in the Americas. U.S. and Moroccan production have risen much more rapidly than in other countries. U.S. production in 1964 was nearly 7 times larger than the 1955-59 average and Morocco's was more than 5 times larger.

International lentil trade centers in West Europe as major importer. Countries in the Mediterranean basin and the Americas are the major exporters.

In calendar year 1963, the big exporters were Turkey, Spain, the U.S., Ethiopia, Morocco and Chile. Together they exported a total of approximately 2 million bags of lentils. The big importers were West Germany, France, the U.K., Italy, and Greece.

LENTILS: Acreage, yield, and production in specified countries, average 1955-59, annual 1963 and 1964

Continent and country	Acreage		Yield per acre		Production	
	Average 1955-59	1963	1964 1/	Average 1955-59	1963	1964 1/
Americas:						
Argentina .....	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres		1,000 bags 2/	1,000 bags 2/
Chile .....	31	36	39			
Colombia .....	64	78	86			
Mexico .....	7	37	43			
Peru .....	8	12	12			
United States .....	11	12	12			
Total .....	19	59	66			
	140	234	258	603	692	844
Europe:						
France .....	31	27	25			
Greece .....	52	36	32			
Italy .....	63	49	48			
Spain .....	101	109	111			
Yugoslavia .....	4	4	2			
Total .....	251	225	218	567	539	1,424
						1,456
Asia:						
India .....	1,164	1,896	1,879			
Jordan .....	56	39	64			
Pakistan .....	246	422	406			
Syria .....	227	200	185			
Turkey .....	204	255	268			
Lebanon .....	5	4	3/4			
Total .....	1,902	2,816	2,806	429	443	8,158
						13,230
Africa:						
Egypt .....	82	81	3/80			
Ethiopia .....	3/300	3/320	3/320			
Morocco .....	26	60	97			
Total .....	408	461	497			
						2,661
Grand total .....	2,701	3,736	3,779	485	524	13,087
						19,587
1/Preliminary. 2/100 pound bags. 3/Estimated. 4/Trade estimate.						

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source materials, reports of U.S. Agricultural Attaches and Foreign Service Officers, results of office research and related information.